IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Presently Amended) A method for preparing bean curd comprising the steps of:
 - a) preparing lactic acid bacteria culture by fermenting i) salt, sugar, water and ii) material which is one or more selected form a group consisting of vegetables, fruits, and a mixture thereof from the group consisting of cabbage, radish, pear, pineapple and a mixture thereof with lactic acid bacteria;
 - b) preparing the <u>a</u> bean soup by pulverizing the <u>soaked soy bean soy beans soaked in</u> water, heating, and filtering; and
 - c) adding the lactic acid bacteria culture of step a) to the bean soup cooled at 40 °C.
- 2. (Original) The method for preparing bean curd according to claim 1, wherein the lactic acid bacteria culture of step a) is lactic acid bacteria existing in Kimchi.
- 3. (Canceled)
- 4. (Currently Amended) A bean Bean curd prepared according to the method in any one of claim 1.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing beverage containing lactic acid bacteria comprising the steps of:
 - a) preparing lactic acid bacteria culture by fermenting i) salt, sugar, water and ii) material which is one or more selected from a group consisting of vegetables, fruits, and a mixture thereof the group consisting of cabbage, radish, pear, pineapple and a mixture thereof with lactic acid bacteria;

- b) preparing the <u>a</u> bean soup by pulverizing the soaked soy beans soaked in water, heating, and filtering: and
- c) adding the lactic acid bacteria culture of step a) to the bean soup-cooled at 40- $^{\Theta}$ C; and to prepare bean curd:
- d) mixing syrup or fruit juice with the bean soup remaining after preparing bean eurds of step c).separating the bean soup remaining from the bean curd; and
- e) mixing syrup or fruit juice with the remaining bean soup.
- 6. (Currently Amended) beverage Beverage prepared according to claim 5.
- 7. (New)) A method for preparing bean curd according to claim 1, wherein the bean soup is cooled at 40°C.
- 8. (New) A method for preparing beverage containing lactic acid bacteria according to claim 5, wherein the bean soup is cooled at 40° C.